



**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
Bureau of Land Management

Lakeview Resource Area  
Lakeview District Office  
1301 South G Street  
Lakeview, Oregon 97630

November 2003

# Lakeview Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision

*(Main Text and Appendices)*

---



*Cover Photo by Terry Spivey*

As the Nation’s principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. Administration.



## United States Department of the Interior

### BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Lakeview District Office  
1301 South G Street  
Lakeview, Oregon 97630

In Reply Refer To:  
1617 (015)

Dear Interested Party:

In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared the attached Lakeview Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Record of Decision (ROD) for the Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for your review. The Lakeview RMP integrates all resource management activities in the Lakeview Resource Area into a single, unified land use plan that will replace all or portions of three existing land use plans and three plan amendments addressing the management of about 3.2 million acres of public land in Lake and Harney Counties, Oregon.

The ROD was prepared in accordance with 40 CFR Part 1505.2, which requires a concise document linking the final decision to the analysis presented in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS. Minor differences or points of clarification have been incorporated in response to public comments, further staff review, and changes in national policy.

A 30-day protest period was provided on the land use plan decisions contained in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS in accordance with 43 CFR Part 1610.5-2. In addition, the Governor of Oregon was provided a formal, 60-day review period to determine if the proposed plan conformed to existing state plans. Fifteen protest letters and three comment letters were received. Nine of the protests were determined to represent valid protests. After careful consideration of all points raised in those protests, the BLM Director concluded that the responsible planning team and decision-makers followed all applicable laws, regulations, policies, and pertinent resource considerations in developing the proposed plan. All protesting parties received a response addressing their concerns from the BLM Director. In addition, those who provided comment letters received a response from the BLM Lakeview District Manager addressing their concerns.

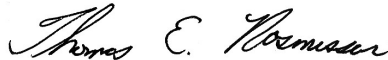
The attached ROD serves as the final decision for the land use plan decisions described in the attached RMP and becomes effective on the date the ROD is signed. No further administrative remedies are available at this time for these land use plan decisions (see Table R-1). Please note that some of these planning decisions will require the preparation of detailed, project-level NEPA analyses prior to on-the-ground implementation (see Table R-3). Future public involvement opportunities (including further protest or appeal opportunities) may be provided at that time.

Other decisions have been addressed to a sufficient level of detail in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS process to be implemented over time without further NEPA analysis. These are considered to be new "implementation decisions" (see Table R-4). These will be implemented as funding and staff are available. A separate appeal opportunity for these selected decisions is being provided at this time. The appeal period will close 30 days from the date the Notice of Availability of the ROD/RMP appears in the *Federal Register*. This date will also be announced via local news releases, legal notices, and/or individual postcard mailings. Please review the ROD carefully for a more detailed discussion of the appeal process.

Additional hard copies of all of the related planning documents, including the RMP/ROD may be obtained at the address above. Electronic copies of the documents and all of the associated digital data used in this planning effort may also be obtained via the internet at <http://www.or.blm.gov/Lakeview/Planning/planning.htm> or on CD-ROM.

We appreciate your help in this planning effort and look forward to your continued participation as the plan is implemented. For additional information or clarification regarding the attached document or the planning process, please contact Paul Whitman at (541) 947-6110 or e-mail at [pwhitman@or.blm.gov](mailto:pwhitman@or.blm.gov).

Sincerely,



Thomas E. Rasmussen, Manager  
Lakeview Resource Area

Enclosure: (as stated)

# Table of Contents

## Record of Decision

|                                                                     |   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Introduction .....                                                  | 1 |
| What the Decision Will Provide .....                                | 1 |
| What the Decision Will Not Provide .....                            | 1 |
| Land Use Plan Decisions .....                                       | 1 |
| Continuity of Previous Decisions .....                              | 2 |
| Implementation Decisions .....                                      | 2 |
| Appeal Procedures for Implementation Decisions .....                | 2 |
| Overview of the Alternatives .....                                  | 3 |
| Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Analysis ..... | 3 |
| Alternatives Analyzed in Detail .....                               | 3 |
| General Management Themes of the Alternatives .....                 | 3 |
| Environmental Preferability of the Alternatives .....               | 4 |
| Management Considerations .....                                     | 5 |
| Rationale for the Decision .....                                    | 5 |
| Mitigation Measures .....                                           | 5 |
| Plan Monitoring .....                                               | 5 |
| Public Involvement in the Planning Process .....                    | 5 |
| Scoping .....                                                       | 5 |
| Subbasin Review .....                                               | 6 |
| Analysis of the Management Situation .....                          | 6 |
| Draft RMP/EIS .....                                                 | 6 |
| Proposed RMP/Final EIS .....                                        | 6 |
| Consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service .....              | 6 |
| Tribal Participation .....                                          | 7 |
| RMP Implementation .....                                            | 7 |
| Manager's Recommendations .....                                     | 8 |
| State Director Approval .....                                       | 8 |

## Resource Management Plan

|                                                                          |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Introduction and Background .....                                        | 17 |
| Purpose and Need for the Plan .....                                      | 17 |
| Planning Area .....                                                      | 17 |
| Planning Process .....                                                   | 17 |
| Planning Issues .....                                                    | 18 |
| Issues Eliminated from Detailed Study .....                              | 21 |
| Planning Criteria .....                                                  | 21 |
| Relationship to Federal, State, Local, and Tribal Government Plans ..... | 22 |
| Desired Range of Conditions .....                                        | 23 |
| Land Use Plan Goals .....                                                | 24 |
| Other Strategies .....                                                   | 25 |
| Management Decisions .....                                               | 27 |
| Plant Communities — Shrub Steppe .....                                   | 28 |
| Plant Communities — Riparian and Wetland .....                           | 30 |
| Plant Communities — Forest and Woodlands .....                           | 32 |
| Special Status Plants .....                                              | 35 |



|                                                                                 |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Noxious Weeds and Competing Undesirable Vegetation .....                        | 37    |
| Soils and Microbiotic Crusts .....                                              | 38    |
| Water Resources/Watershed Health .....                                          | 39    |
| Fish and Aquatic Habitat .....                                                  | 43    |
| Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat .....                                             | 44    |
| Special Status Animal Species .....                                             | 51    |
| Livestock Grazing Management .....                                              | 52    |
| Wild Horses .....                                                               | 55    |
| Special Management Areas — Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and Research |       |
| Natural Areas .....                                                             | 57    |
| Special Management Areas — Wilderness .....                                     | 70    |
| Special Management Areas — Wild and Scenic Rivers .....                         | 73    |
| Special Management Areas — Significant Caves .....                              | 74    |
| Cultural and Paleontological Resources .....                                    | 74    |
| Human Uses and Values .....                                                     | 79    |
| Air Quality .....                                                               | 80    |
| Fire Management .....                                                           | 81    |
| Recreation Resources .....                                                      | 83    |
| Off-Highway Vehicles .....                                                      | 86    |
| Visual Resources .....                                                          | 88    |
| Energy and Mineral Resources .....                                              | 88    |
| Lands and Realty .....                                                          | 92    |
| Roads and Transportation .....                                                  | 95    |
| Hazardous Materials .....                                                       | 99    |
| Operation and Maintenance Actions .....                                         | 100   |
| Plan Implementation Process .....                                               | 100   |
| <b>Literature Cited</b> .....                                                   | 103   |
| <b>Glossary</b> .....                                                           | 109   |
| <b>Appendices</b>                                                               |       |
| Introduction .....                                                              | A-1   |
| Appendix D: Best Management Practices .....                                     | A-2   |
| Appendix E: Livestock Grazing .....                                             | A-8   |
| Appendix E1: Allotment Management Summaries .....                               | A-8   |
| Appendix E3: Range Projects .....                                               | A-142 |
| Appendix E5: Grazing Systems within the Planning Area .....                     | A-142 |
| Appendix F: Watershed and Water Quality .....                                   | A-149 |
| Appendix F2: Riparian/Wetland Areas .....                                       | A-149 |
| Appendix F3: Water Quality Restoration Plans .....                              | A-156 |
| Appendix G: Noxious Weeds .....                                                 | A-165 |
| Appendix L: Fire Rehabilitation .....                                           | A-167 |
| Appendix L1: Lakeview Resource Area Normal Fire Rehabilitation Plan .....       | A-167 |
| Appendix L2: Normal Emergency Fire Rehabilitation Guidelines for                |       |
| Wilderness Study Areas .....                                                    | A-169 |
| Appendix N: Minerals .....                                                      | A-172 |
| Appendix N3: Stipulations and Guidelines for Mineral Operations .....           | A-172 |
| Attachment 1 - Locatable Mineral Surface Management .....                       | A-176 |

|                                                                           |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Attachment 2 - Guidelines for Development of Salable Minerals .....       | A-179 |
| Appendix O: Lands .....                                                   | A-181 |
| Appendix O1: Land Tenure Adjustment Criteria and Legal Requirements ..... | A-181 |
| Appendix O2: Public Lands Available for Disposal .....                    | A-183 |

**List of Tables** (*Record of Decision*)

|                                                                                                        |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Table R-1: Summary of land use allocations .....                                                       | 8  |
| Table R-2: Existing decisions carried forward and not subject to further administrative remedies ..... | 11 |
| Table R-3: Future actions likely requiring further NEPA analysis prior to implementation .....         | 14 |
| Table R-4: New implementation decisions now subject to appeal .....                                    | 16 |

**List of Tables** (*Main Text*)

|                                                                                                     |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Table 1: Land ownership/administration by county within the Lakeview Resource Area .....            | 18 |
| Table 2: Steps in the BLM planning process .....                                                    | 19 |
| Table 3: Monitoring method by fish and aquatic habitat objective .....                              |    |
| Table 4: 1998 State of Oregon water quality impaired stream reaches on LRA-administered lands ..... | 33 |
| Table 5: Forage allocation and allotment summary .....                                              | 46 |
| Table 6: Areas unallotted or excluded from livestock grazing .....                                  | 54 |
| Table 7: Characteristics representative to each wild horse herd .....                               | 54 |
| Table 8: Management summary for ACEC/RNA's .....                                                    | 58 |
| Table 9: Overlap of ACEC's and WSA's .....                                                          | 59 |
| Table 10: Miles of roads to be closed in special management areas .....                             | 60 |
| Table 11: Wilderness study areas and instant study areas .....                                      | 72 |
| Table 12: Off-highway vehicle designations by area .....                                            | 76 |
| Table 13: Areas of rights-of-way exclusion and avoidance areas .....                                | 95 |
| Table 14: Existing withdrawals .....                                                                | 96 |

**List of Tables** (*Appendices*)

|                                                                                                                                                                     |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Table E3-1: Potential projects by allotment .....                                                                                                                   | A-143 |
| Table E5-1: Grazing seasons in relation to months .....                                                                                                             | A-146 |
| Table F2-1: Riparian trend analysis worksheet by category .....                                                                                                     | A-150 |
| Table F2-2: Standards for rangeland health and relationship to watershed<br>condition factors (Table F2-1) contributing to nonpoint source pollution .....          | A-154 |
| Table F3-1: 1998 State of Oregon water quality impaired<br>stream reaches on LRA-administered lands .....                                                           | A-157 |
| Table F3-2: Watershed conditions and relationship to nonpoint source pollution .....                                                                                | A-158 |
| Table F3-3: Management actions that are directly related to or emphasize standards<br>for rangeland health and watershed conditions that affect water quality ..... | A-160 |
| Table L2-1: Emergency fire rehabilitation native seed mixtures .....                                                                                                | A-170 |
| Table O2-1: Public lands available for disposal .....                                                                                                               | A-184 |

**List of Maps** (*Map Packet*)

|          |                                                                                    |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I-1:     | Land Status                                                                        |
| FM-5:    | Fire Management Plan                                                               |
| G-3:     | Grazing Allotments                                                                 |
| L-5:     | Land Tenure Zones                                                                  |
| L-8:     | Right-of-Way Avoidance and Exclusion Areas                                         |
| R-3:     | Recreation Opportunity Spectrum                                                    |
| R-7:     | Off-Highway Vehicle Designations                                                   |
| R-9:     | Recreation, Wilderness Study Areas, and Wild and Scenic Rivers                     |
| M-8:     | Salable Mineral Restrictions                                                       |
| M-9:     | Leasable Mineral Restrictions                                                      |
| M-10:    | Locatable Mineral Restrictions                                                     |
| SMA-4:   | Special Management Areas                                                           |
| SMA-5:   | Devil's Garden ACEC and WSA                                                        |
| SMA-7:   | Lake Abert ACEC, Abert Rim WSA, and Abert Rim ACEC                                 |
| SMA-9:   | Lost Forest -Sand Dunes - Fossil Lake ACEC, Sand Dunes WSA, and Lost Forest RNA    |
| SMA-9A:  | Off-Highway Vehicle Designations in Lost Forest-Sand Dunes-Fossil Lake Area        |
| SMA-10:  | Warner Wetlands ACEC                                                               |
| SMA-11:  | Black Hills ACEC/RNA                                                               |
| SMA-12:  | Connley Hills ACEC/RNA                                                             |
| SMA-13:  | Fish Creek Rim ACEC/RNA and WSA                                                    |
| SMA-14:  | Foley Lake ACEC/RNA                                                                |
| SMA-15:  | Hawksie-Walksie ACEC/RNA and Hawk Mountain WSA                                     |
| SMA-16:  | High Lakes ACEC, Sink Lakes, and Guano Creek ACEC/RNA, and Guano Creek WSA         |
| SMA-17:  | Juniper Mountain ACEC/RNA                                                          |
| SMA-18:  | Rahilly-Gravelly ACEC/RNA                                                          |
| SMA-19:  | Red Knoll ACEC/RNA                                                                 |
| SMA-20:  | Spanish Lake ACEC/RNA                                                              |
| SMA-21:  | Table Rock ACEC/RNA                                                                |
| SMA-22:  | Twelvemile Creek Suitable Wild and Scenic River                                    |
| SMA-24:  | Cabin Lake/Silver Lake Deer Winter Range Cooperative Seasonal Vehicle Closure Area |
| SMA -25: | Crane Mountain and Westside Cemetery Vehicle Closure Areas                         |
| SMA- 26: | Squaw Ridge WSA                                                                    |
| SMA- 27: | Four Craters WSA                                                                   |
| SMA-28:  | Diablo Mountain WSA                                                                |
| SMA-29:  | Spaulding WSA                                                                      |
| SMA-30:  | Orejana Canyon WSA                                                                 |
| SMA-31:  | Basque Hills and Rincon WSAs                                                       |
| V-3:     | Juniper Habitats and Treatment Areas                                               |
| VRM-3:   | Visual Resource Management Classes                                                 |



# Abbreviations and Acronyms

*Reader note: Refer to the list below for abbreviations or acronyms that may be used in this document.*

ACEC ~ area of critical environmental concern  
APHIS ~ Agricultural Plant and Animal Health Inspection Service  
AUM ~ animal unit month  
BIA ~ Bureau of Indian Affairs  
BLM ~ Bureau of Land Management  
BMP ~ best management practice  
BOR ~ Bureau of Reclamation  
CAA ~ “Clean Air Act”  
CFR ~ “Code of Federal Regulations”  
CWA ~ “Clean Water Act”  
DLCD ~ Department of Land Conservation and Development  
DOD ~ Department of Defense  
DOE ~ Department of Energy  
DOI ~ Department of the Interior  
EIS ~ environmental impact statement  
EPA ~ Environmental Protection Agency  
FAA ~ Federal Aviation Administration  
FERC ~ Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
FLPMA ~ “Federal Land Policy and Management Act”  
HAZMAT ~ hazardous materials  
ICBEMP ~ Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project  
IMP (wilderness) ~ “Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review” 1995  
ISA ~ instant study area  
LCDC ~ Land Conservation and Development Commission  
LRA ~ Lakeview Resource Area  
NCA ~ national conservation area  
NEPA ~ “National Environmental Policy Act”  
NRHP ~ National Register of Historic Places  
NOAA ~ National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration  
NPS ~ National Park Service  
ODA ~ Oregon Department of Agriculture  
ODEQ ~ Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
ODF ~ Oregon Department of Forestry  
ODFW ~ Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
ODOT ~ Oregon Department of Transportation  
OHV ~ off-highway vehicle  
ONHP ~ Oregon Natural Heritage Program  
PRIA ~ “Public Rangelands Improvement Act”  
RMP ~ resource management plan  
RNA ~ research natural area  
SMA ~ special management area  
TNC ~ The Nature Conservancy  
USDA ~ U.S. Department of Agriculture  
USDI ~ U.S. Department of the Interior  
USFS ~ U.S. Forest Service  
USFWS ~ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
USGS ~ U.S. Geological Survey  
VRM ~ visual resource management  
WSA ~ wilderness study area  
WSR ~ wild and scenic river

# Record of Decision —

## Introduction

The planning area covers about 3.2 million acres of BLM-administered surface lands and about 3.0 million acres of subsurface mineral estate in Lake and Harney Counties, Oregon (Map I-1). The planning area includes all of the Lakeview Resource Area (LRA) except for approximately 31,500 acres administered by the Burns District and addressed in the Three Rivers Resource Management Plan (RMP) (USDI-BLM 1989d). In addition, the planning area includes approximately 2,172 acres in the Surprise Field Office in northern California and Nevada that the LRA manages under a cooperative agreement.

The primary decision is to approve the attached Lakeview RMP. This Record of Decision (ROD) covers a variety of management actions that are considered to be implementation decisions rather than land use planning decisions. Therefore, this decision has been separated into those actions which are land use planning decisions, which were protestable under the land use planning regulations (43 CFR 1610) and those actions which are implementation decisions, and are currently appealable under the Department of Interior's appeal regulations (43 CFR 4).

### What the Decision Will Provide

This ROD will provide overall direction for management of all resources on BLM-administered land in the planning area.

### What the Decision Will Not Provide

Many decisions are not appropriate at this level of planning and will not be included in this ROD. Examples of these types of decisions include:

1) *Statutory requirements.* The decision will not change the BLM's responsibility to comply with applicable laws and regulations including the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Federal Land Policy and Management Act, or any other federal law.

2) *National Policy.* The decision will not change BLM's obligation to conform with current or future national policy.

3) *Funding levels and allocations.* These are determined annually at the national level and are beyond the control of the field office.

4) *Management changes proposed for lands outside of Oregon.* Recommended management changes for the 2,172 acres in the Surprise Field Office in northern California and Nevada will be provided to the California State Director of the BLM for consideration. The California State Director will have the final jurisdiction over these lands and may choose to adopt them through subsequent land use planning efforts for other lands within his/her jurisdiction.

5) *Changes in wilderness study area boundaries.*

## Land Use Plan Decisions

The decision is hereby made to approve the attached Resource Management Plan for the Lakeview Resource Area of the Lakeview District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This plan was prepared under the regulations implementing the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 CFR Part 1600). An environmental impact statement was prepared for this RMP in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. The RMP is identical to the preferred Alternative D described in the Proposed Lakeview Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement published in January 2003. Specific management decisions for public lands under the jurisdiction of the Lakeview Resource Area are presented in the section titled "Resource Management Plan" later in this document.

Land use plan decisions are identified in the attached RMP (summarized in Table R-1) and include:

1) Goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines that define desired outcomes or future conditions.

2) Land use allocations. This includes: a proposed withdrawal, and numerous special management area designations.

3) Visual resource management (VRM) classifications.

4) Land tenure.

- 5) Allowable uses and restrictions including:
- specific off-highway vehicle (OHV) area and road closures,
  - mining restrictions, areas allotted to and excluded from livestock grazing,
  - areas open or closed to firewood cutting or other vegetative product removal, and
  - areas closed to commercial timber harvest or having no allowable sale quantity.

A 30-day protest period was provided on the land use plan decisions contained in the “Proposed RMP/Final EIS” in accordance with 43 CFR Part 1610.5-2. Fifteen protests were received and subsequently resolved. This ROD serves as the final decision for the land use plan decisions described above and becomes effective on the date this ROD is signed. No further administrative remedies are available at this time for these land use plan decisions (Table R-1).

## Continuity of Previous Decisions

Within the attached RMP are a number of valid, existing decisions that were previously made in other land use plans, plan amendments, and project or activity level plans which will remain in effect and continue to be implemented. These do not represent new decisions that are subject to protest or appeal. Administrative relief opportunities were provided previously when those decisions were made. These decisions are summarized in Table R-2.

## Implementation Decisions

It is the BLM’s intent to implement, over time, a number of specific project level decisions described in the attached RMP, as funding and staff are available. These are called “implementation decisions” (as opposed to the land use planning decisions described above).

Some decisions in the RMP will require the preparation of detailed, project-level NEPA analyses prior to implementation (Table R-3). Public involvement opportunities, including further protest or appeal opportunities, may be provided at that time.

Other decisions have been addressed to a sufficient level of detail in the RMP/EIS process to be implemented over time without further NEPA analysis (Table R-4). An appeal opportunity for these decisions is

being provided at this time as described in the following section.

### Appeal Procedures for Implementation Decisions

Any party adversely affected by an implementation decision (Table R-4) may appeal within 30 days of receipt of this decision in accordance with the provisions of 43 CFR Parts 4.4. The appeal must include a statement of reasons or file a separate statement of reasons within 30 days of filing the appeal. The appeal must state if a stay of the decision is being requested in accordance with 43 CFR 4.21 and must be filed with the Field Manager, at the following address:

Lakeview Resource Area  
Bureau of Land Management  
1301 South G Street  
Lakeview, Oregon 97630

A copy of the appeal, statement of reasons, and all other supporting documents should be sent to the Regional Solicitor, Pacific Northwest Region, U.S. Department of the Interior, Lloyd 500 Building, Suite 607, 500 N.E. Multnomah Street, Portland, OR 97232. If the statement of reasons is filed separately it must be sent to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203. It is suggested that any appeal be sent certified mail, return receipt requested.

### Request for Stay

Should you wish to file a motion for stay pending the outcome of an appeal of these implementation decisions, you must show sufficient justification based on the following standards under 43 CFR 4.21:

- 1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied.
- 2) The likelihood of the appellant’s success on the merits.
- 3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted.
- 4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

As noted above, the motion for stay must be filed in the office of the authorized officer.

## Overview of the Alternatives

### Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Analysis

During the early stages of the planning process a number of alternatives were considered, but dropped from detailed analysis for a variety of reasons. These alternatives included:

- 1) No Management Alternative
- 2) Proposed High Desert Protection Act
- 3) Proposed Pronghorn and Alkali Lake ACECs
- 4) Wilderness Study Area Boundary Changes to Allow State Highway Re-alignment

A brief description of each alternative and the reason for dropping it from further analysis is contained in Chapter 3 of the “Proposed RMP/Final EIS” (USDI-BLM 2003).

### Alternatives Analyzed in Detail

Five alternatives are analyzed in detail in the Proposed RMP/FEIS (USDI-BLM 2003). The overall theme determined the types of management actions that would be applied. Most of the alternatives, with the exception of Alternative E, were designed to meet the RMP management goals. However, they differed in how fast the management goal would be met, the degree to which it would be met, the priorities within the program, the emphasis placed on different management activities, whether actions are active or passive, and what trade-offs society would be willing to accept. Public input received throughout the planning process was considered in the development of alternatives. The alternatives varied in their ability to meet the management goals over the life of the plan (up to 20 years). Funding and staffing levels would affect rates of implementation, and projected implementation rates could vary by alternative, depending on the costs.

All alternatives included maintenance of existing facilities; however, the level of maintenance could vary by alternative and due to annual funding. All alternatives incorporated or complied with the management direction provided by the Warner sucker biological opinion agreements, the “Recovery Plan for the Threatened and Rare Fishes of the Warner Basin and Alkali Subbasin (USDI-USFWS 1998);” the “Standards for Land Health for Lands Administered by the Bureau of

Land Management in the States of Oregon and Washington” (USDI-BLM 1998); and the “Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review” (Wilderness IMP) (USDI-BLM 1995b). Most alternatives incorporated the “Greater Sage-Grouse and Sagebrush-Steppe Ecosystems Management Guidelines” (Sage-Grouse Planning Team 2000). Local Native American Tribes would be consulted during plan implementation for all actions that may affect their interests. Cultural resource surveys and sensitive species surveys would be conducted prior to any ground-disturbing activity or land disposal.

### General Management Themes of the Alternatives

The following is a description of the general management theme for the five alternatives considered in detail.

#### *Alternative A (No Action)*

Alternative A continued present management and was considered the “no action” alternative. This alternative continued management under the three existing management framework plans (USDI-BLM 1983a, 1983b, 1983c), the “Lakeview Grazing Management Final EIS and Record of Decision” (USDI-BLM 1982a, 1982b), and the three management framework plan amendments (USDI-BLM 1989b, 1989c, 1996c, 1996d; USDI-USFWS and USDI-BLM 1998a, 1998b) and various existing activity plans. It included the management direction and protections provided by all currently approved activity plans such as allotment management plans or habitat management plans. Resource values or sensitive habitats received management emphasis at present levels. Emphasis was on maintaining existing conditions. There was no comprehensive plan for restoration of degraded systems and would occur on a case-by-case basis using either active or passive methods.

#### *Alternative B (Commodity Production)*

Alternative B emphasized commodity production and production of public goods and services (mining, grazing, commercial recreation, and commercial woodland products harvesting, etc.). Constraints on commodity production for sensitive resources was the least restrictive possible within the limits defined by law, regulation, and BLM policy, including compliance with the “Endangered Species Act,” cultural resource protection laws, wetland preservation, etc. Potential impacts to sensitive resource values were mitigated on



a case-by-case basis. Emphasis was on maintaining existing conditions. Restoration actions that enhanced commodity production would utilize primarily active methods. Other restoration actions utilized passive methods.

#### ***Alternative C (Active Restoration)***

Alternative C emphasized the active restoration of natural systems that are degraded and the maintenance of those that are functioning at a high level of condition. Commodity production was constrained to protect natural values and ecological systems. Constraints to protect sensitive resources, such as cultural resources, were the most restrictive. In some cases, commodity production could be excluded to protect sensitive resources. Both active and passive restoration methods were utilized to achieve management goals.

#### ***Alternative D (Preferred Alternative)***

Alternative D is the BLM's preferred alternative. This alternative emphasizes a high level of natural resource protection and improvement in ecological conditions while providing a sustainable level of commodity production. This alternative balances the need to protect, restore, and enhance natural values, with the need to provide for the production of food, fiber, minerals, and services on the public lands. This would be done within the limits of the ecosystem's ability to provide these on a sustainable basis and within the constraints of various laws and regulations. Constraints to protect sensitive resources will be implemented, but they will be less restrictive than Alternative C. Restoration actions will utilize either active or passive methods to achieve management goals.

#### ***Alternative E (Passive Restoration)***

This alternative excluded all permitted, discretionary uses of the public lands including livestock grazing, mineral sale or leasing, realty actions, recreation uses requiring permits, commercial rights-of-way, etc. The BLM would petition the Department of the Interior (DOI) to withdraw the entire planning area from locatable mineral entry. This alternative allowed no commodity production and included only those management actions necessary to maintain or enhance natural values and protect life and property. Management actions utilized primarily passive methods. Though some components of the alternative may not be possible to implement because of legal constraints, it was included for purposes of impact comparison.

### **Environmental Preferability of the Alternatives**

Environmental preferability is judged using the criteria in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and subsequent guidance by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ, 1981). The CEQ has defined the environmentally preferable alternative as the alternative that will promote the national environmental policy as expressed in Section 101 of the NEPA. This section lists six broad policy goals for all Federal plans, programs, and policies:

- 1) Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
- 2) Assure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
- 3) Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;
- 4) Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity and variety of individual choice;
- 5) Achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and
- 6) Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

Based on these criteria, identification of the most environmentally preferable alternative involves a balancing of current and potential resource uses with that of resource protection. Alternative A is about equal to Alternative B in terms of overall environmental preferability. The costs of implementation and impact on the local economy would maintain the status quo. Alternative B could be viewed the least environmentally preferable alternative, as it offers the most intensive livestock and other commodity uses of the area, and either negatively impacts other resource values the most or limits the rate of ecosystem recovery. This alternative would provide the most economic benefit to the economy in the short-term. Alternative D would be less environmentally preferable than Alternative C, but more preferable than Alternatives A or B. It offers similar, but somewhat less beneficial uses as Alternatives A and B, but provides less protection than Alternative C or E. This alternative would provide a

balance between sustainable economic benefits and resource protection. Alternative C would be more protective than Alternatives A, B, or D, but would allow fewer beneficial uses and cause a higher loss to the local economy than these three alternatives. Due to the use of active restoration, ecosystem recovery would be greatest of all the alternatives. Alternative E would reduce negative impacts from a variety of existing resource uses. However, due to the complete reliance on natural processes, it would do little to actively improve or restore resource conditions during the life of the plan. Though it would be the least expensive alternative to implement, it would result in the highest economic loss to the local economy.

Given the need to balance the six goals, the BLM finds that Alternative D best meets the definition of the environmentally preferred alternative.

## Management Considerations

### Rationale for the Decision

Based on the input received during the planning process, there was both support and opposition to many components of the proposed plan. No formal comments were received from Federal or state agencies, or tribal governments indicating the proposed plan was inconsistent with other existing plans or policies. Several comments were received on the proposed plan related to the conflict between the designation of new ACEC's and Lake County Ordinance 24. This is addressed in Chapter 1, pages 1-7 to 1-8 of the "Lakeview Proposed RMP/Final EIS" (USDI-BLM 2003).

The BLM is tasked with the job of multiple use management, as mandated under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and numerous other conflicting laws and regulations which govern the management of public lands. The proposed RMP (Alternative D) provides a balance between those reasonable measures necessary to protect the existing resource values and the continued public need to make beneficial use of the planning area. Therefore, the implementation of the Proposed RMP is the alternative best able to comply with all applicable laws, regulations, policy, and agency direction.

## Mitigation Measures

In order to minimize impacts from implementation of the decisions contained in the RMP, the best manage-

ment practices (BMP's) identified in Appendix D and stipulations and guidelines for mineral operations identified in Appendix N3 would be utilized where appropriate.

## Plan Monitoring

The BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.4-9) call for the monitoring of resource management plans on a continual basis with a formal evaluation done at periodic intervals. Implementation of the Lakeview RMP will be monitored over time. Plan evaluations will occur on about 5-year intervals. Management actions arising from activity plan decisions will be evaluated to ensure consistency with RMP objectives. This is described in more detail in the monitoring section of the attached RMP.

## Public Involvement in the Planning Process

### Scoping

Public involvement is an integral part of BLM's resource management planning process. The official start of the preparation of the Lakeview RMP/EIS was initiated with the publishing of a "Notice of Intent" to prepare an RMP/EIS in the *Federal Register* on June 21, 1999. This notice also included an invitation to the public to suggest issues to be addressed in the RMP and to provide comments concerning management of the public lands. In addition, approximately 500 public information or scoping packets, providing information about the planning process and inviting comments, were mailed to agencies, tribal governments, organizations, and individuals. News releases were sent to newspapers and radio stations in both Klamath Falls and Lakeview. Paid notices announcing the scoping period and meetings were placed in the legal notices sections of the two newspapers. The "Notice of Intent," news releases, and legal notices identified the beginning of the EIS scoping period and the location, date, and time of the public scoping meetings. The comment period extended from June 21 through July 31, 1999.

The public scoping meetings were held at the inter-agency office in Lakeview on July 13, 1999, and at the North Lake School on July 14, 1999. Seven people, including private citizens, mining company managers, representatives of two State agencies, and a newspaper reporter attended the meeting in Lakeview. No one



attended the meeting in north Lake County. Six written comments or letters were received at the meetings or during the comment period. These comments dealt primarily with designation of special management areas, preserving and protecting the naturalness of the resource area, and maintaining air quality in relation to prescribed burning. These comments were incorporated into the alternatives and the impact analysis of the Lakeview RMP/EIS.

### **Subbasin Review**

Although technically not part of the public participation process, a subbasin review was conducted prior to completing the "Analysis of the Management Situation" (USDI-BLM 2000b). The subbasin review was a multi-agency collaborative effort to "step down" to the local level the findings and assessments of the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project (ICBEMP) (see Appendix A of the Draft RMP/EIS (USDI-BLM 2001a)). In other words, did the findings from ICBEMP relate to the Lakeview RMP planning area? The subbasin review group determined that many of them did, and these were incorporated into the issues addressed in this plan.

### **Analysis of the Management Situation**

The "Summary of the Analysis of the Management Situation" (USDI-BLM 2000f) was prepared after the subbasin review and mailed to approximately 500 agencies, tribal governments, organizations, and individuals in July 2000. It contained a description of the preliminary issues, alternatives, and planning criteria, as well as, the resource area profile, existing management situation, and management opportunities. The public was requested to comment on the information in the document, particularly the issues, alternatives, and planning criteria. The BLM received approximately 60 comment letters and emails. The majority of these comments dealt with the management opportunities identified for the Public Sunstone Collecting Area. Other comments dealt with potential management actions under the proposed alternatives. All comments were considered in developing the alternatives analyzed in the Draft Lakeview RMP/EIS (USDI-BLM 2001a).

### **Draft RMP/EIS**

Approximately 1,300 copies of the Draft RMP/EIS (USDI-BLM 2001a) were mailed out to interested agencies, Tribes, individuals, and organizations. In addition, the document was made available on the Lakeview District's planning webpage ([http://](http://www.or.blm.gov/Lakeview/Planning/planning.htm)

[www.or.blm.gov/Lakeview/Planning/planning.htm](http://www.or.blm.gov/Lakeview/Planning/planning.htm)). Three public meetings were held during the 90-day public comment period on the draft. The BLM accepted comments for up to 60 days past the official close of the comment period. A total of 320 comment letters were received from Federal and state agencies, tribal governments, local governments, advisory groups, conservation or environmental organizations, commercial interests, and other interested public members. Approximately 150 letters were form letters or primarily "votes" for one alternative or another. About 90 of these form letters consisted of similar emails sent by members of the Oregon Natural Desert Association. About 76 letters contained what were considered substantive comments. In addition, a petition was submitted containing almost 500 signatures opposing proposed road and camping area closures in the northern part of Lake County. These were included in Volume IV of the "Proposed RMP/Final EIS" (USDI-BLM 2003).

### **Proposed RMP/Final EIS**

A 30-day protest period was provided on the "Proposed RMP/Final EIS" in accordance with 43 CFR Part 1610.5-2. A total of 15 protests and 3 comments letters were received. Nine of the protests were determined to represent valid protests. All valid protests were resolved by the BLM Director. All those who provided invalid protests or comment letters received a response from the Oregon/Washington BLM State Director.

### **Consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

In December 2000, the BLM initiated consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding potential impacts of actions proposed in the Lakeview RMP to federally listed species or species proposed for listing. This is in conformance with the memorandum of agreement between the BLM and the USFWS dated August 30, 2000. A lead representative for the USFWS was designated and was sent Lakeview Draft RMP/EIS (USDI-BLM 2001a) for review and input to the process. The USFWS sent the BLM a list of species either federally-listed or proposed for listing that may occur in the planning area. Species that are known to occur in the planning area were addressed in the planning process. Consultation with the USFWS is documented in Chapter 5 of the proposed plan. A biological opinion or concurrence was requested on the "Proposed RMP/Final EIS" (USDI-BLM 2003). The USFWS provided their biological opinion in October 2003.

## Tribal Participation

Under Federal law and regulations, consultation with Native American Tribes who have an interest in the planning area is required. To accomplish this, district staff have met with or phoned Tribal groups regularly, and BLM managers have made repeated updates at Tribal Council meetings. Copies of the scoping packet, "Summary of the Analysis of the Management Situation" (USDI-BLM 2000f), "Draft RMP/EIS" (USDI-BLM 2001a), and "Proposed RMP/Final EIS" (USDI-BLM 2003) were sent to each of the Tribal groups for review and comment. Tribal consultation is documented further in Chapter 5 of the proposed plan.

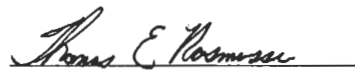
## RMP Implementation

Public involvement in plan implementation decisions is discussed in the "Implementation Decisions" section on page 2.

In addition, the Lakeview District may pilot the development of an implementation strategy or "business plan", that would allow further opportunities for public involvement in determining what portions of the Lakeview RMP should be highest priority for future implementation. The extent of public involvement in this effort has not been determined at this point in time. Further details may become available in the near future.

## Managers' Recommendations

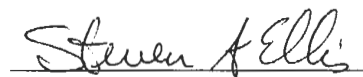
Having considered a full range of alternatives, associated impacts, and public input, I recommend adoption and implementation of the attached Lakeview Resource Management Plan.



**Thomas E. Rasmussen**  
Field Manager  
Lakeview Resource Area

10/9/03

Date



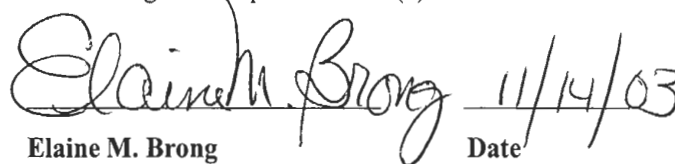
**Steven A. Ellis**  
District Manager  
Lakeview District Office

10/10/03

Date

## State Director Approval

I approve the attached Lakeview Resource Management Plan, as recommended. This document meets the requirements for a Record of Decision, as provided in 40 Code of Federal Regulations part 1505.2 and for a resource management plan, as described in 40 Code of Federal Regulations part 1610.0-5(k).



**Elaine M. Brong**  
Oregon State Director

11/14/03  
Date

**Table R-1.—Summary of land use allocations**

|                                                             | Number  | Acres     | Miles | Map Number\Reference                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Forest and Woodland Management</b>                       |         |           |       |                                     |
| Commercial forest lands                                     |         | 15,331    |       |                                     |
| Commercial forest lands with Allowable Sale Quantity        |         | 0         |       |                                     |
| Juniper Woodlands                                           |         | 215,052   |       | V-3                                 |
| Retain existing juniper wood cutting areas                  | 5       | 37,625    |       | V-3                                 |
| Close existing juniper wood cutting area (Juniper Mountain) | 1       | 950       |       |                                     |
| Designate new juniper wood cutting areas                    | 4       | 18,956    |       | V-3                                 |
| <b>Wildlife Management</b>                                  |         |           |       |                                     |
| Total forage allocation (AUMs)                              | 22,829  | 400       |       | Table 5, Appendix E1<br>SMA-10      |
| Tallgrass nesting area (Warner Wetlands ACEC)               |         |           |       |                                     |
| <b>Livestock Grazing Management</b>                         |         |           |       |                                     |
| Areas allotted to grazing                                   | 120     | 2,916,985 |       | G-3                                 |
| Areas unallotted to grazing                                 |         | 155,734   |       | G-3                                 |
| Areas excluded from grazing                                 |         | 88,697    |       | G-3                                 |
| Total forage allocation (AUMs)                              | 164,128 |           |       | Appendix E1                         |
| <b>Wild Horse Management</b>                                |         |           |       |                                     |
| Herd management areas                                       | 2       | 710,440   |       | SMA-4                               |
| Unoccupied herd areas                                       | 1       | 31,859    |       | SMA-4                               |
| Total forage allocation (AUMs)                              |         |           |       | Appendix E1                         |
| Paisley Desert Herd Management Area                         | 1,800   |           |       |                                     |
| Beaty Butte Herd Management Area                            | 3,000   |           |       |                                     |
| <b>Special Management Areas</b>                             |         |           |       |                                     |
| Retain existing ACEC's                                      | 4       | 165,935   |       | SMA-4, 5, 7, 9, 10                  |
| Modify existing RNA                                         | 1       | 8,883     |       | SMA-9                               |
| Expand existing ACEC                                        | 1       | 18,049    |       | SMA-7                               |
| Designate new ACEC/RNA's                                    | 12      | 131,116   |       | SMA-4, 11-21                        |
| Retain existing WSA's                                       | 15      | 486,873   |       | R-9, SMA-5, 7, 9, 13, 15, 16, 26-31 |
| Recommend suitable WSR with Recreational designation        | 1       | 1,311     | 4.4   | SMA-22                              |
| <b>Cultural Resource Management</b>                         |         |           |       |                                     |
| Areas on National Register of Historic Places               | 3       | 13,722    |       | SMA-4                               |
| Native American traditional use areas                       | 8       | 122,611   |       |                                     |
| <b>Fire Management</b>                                      |         |           |       |                                     |
| Area of full wildfire suppression                           |         | 350,131   |       | FM-5                                |
| Area of modified wildfire suppression                       |         | 2,839,829 |       | FM-5                                |

|                                                            | Number         | Acres              | Miles | Map or Table No.   Reference |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| <b>Recreation Management</b>                               |                |                    |       |                              |
| Special Recreation Management Areas                        | 2              | 822,333            |       | R-9                          |
| Extensive Recreation Management Areas                      |                | 2,339,083          |       |                              |
| Wilderness therapy schools                                 |                |                    |       |                              |
| Total number of groups                                     | 3              |                    |       |                              |
| Maximum group size                                         | 9 plus leaders |                    |       |                              |
| Annual maximum user days                                   | 12,800         |                    |       |                              |
| <b>Off-Highway Vehicle Management</b>                      |                |                    |       |                              |
| Area open to OHV use                                       |                | 1,760,352          |       | R-7                          |
| Area closed to OHV use                                     |                | 10,799             |       | R-7, SMA-9A                  |
| Area with limited OHV use                                  |                |                    |       | R-7, SMA-5, 7, 9A-31         |
| Designated roads and trails <sup>1/</sup>                  |                | 384,537            |       |                              |
| Existing roads and trails                                  |                | 1,005,729          |       |                              |
| <b>Visual Resource Management</b>                          |                |                    |       |                              |
| Area in VRM class I                                        |                | 495,398            |       | VRM-3                        |
| Area in VRM class II                                       |                | 160,404            |       | VRM-3                        |
| Area in VRM class III                                      |                | 373,643            |       | VRM-3                        |
| Area in VRM class IV                                       |                | 2,127,766          |       | VRM-3                        |
| <b>Energy and Mineral Management</b>                       |                |                    |       |                              |
| Areas open to salable mineral disposal                     |                | 1,135,560          |       | M-8                          |
| Areas subject to salable mineral disposal restrictions     |                | 902,170            |       | M-8                          |
| Areas closed to salable mineral disposal                   |                | 524,930            |       | M-8                          |
| Areas of salable surface occupancy avoidance <sup>2/</sup> |                | 676,150            |       | M-8                          |
| Areas open to mineral leasing                              |                | 1,112,222          |       | M-9                          |
| Areas subject to mineral leasing restrictions              |                | 1,609,042          |       | M-9                          |
| Areas closed to mineral leasing                            |                | 496,819            |       | M-9                          |
| Areas open to mineral location                             |                | 1,105,659          |       | M-10                         |
| Areas subject to mineral location restrictions             |                | 2,104,648          |       | M-10                         |
| Areas closed to mineral location                           |                | 28,503             |       | M-10, SMA- 19                |
| <b>Land Tenure Management</b>                              |                |                    |       |                              |
| Zone 1 (retention)                                         |                | 694,616            |       | L-5                          |
| Zone 2 (suitable for exchange)                             |                | 2,458,053          |       | L-5                          |
| Zone 3 (suitable for disposal by exchange or sale)         |                | 8,747 <sup>3</sup> |       | L-5, Appendix O              |
| <b>Right-of-Way Management</b>                             |                |                    |       |                              |
| Right-of-way avoidance area                                |                | 828,332            |       | L-8                          |
| Right-of-way exclusion area                                |                | 487,192            |       | L-8                          |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Number | Acres  | Miles | Map or Table No.   Reference |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|------------------------------|
| <b>Withdrawals</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |        |        |       |                              |
| Retain existing withdrawals                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 12     | 20,989 |       | M-2                          |
| New withdrawal (recommendation)                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1      | 4,600  |       | SMA-19                       |
| <b>Roads and Transportation Management</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         |        |        |       |                              |
| Roads maintained as part of transportation plan                                                                                                                                                                                    |        |        | 2,500 |                              |
| Roads closed seasonally (12/1 to 3/31) <sup>1/</sup>                                                                                                                                                                               |        |        | 288   | SMA-5, 24                    |
| Roads closed permanently                                                                                                                                                                                                           |        |        | 247   | SMA-5, 7, 9-31               |
| Roads maintained annually                                                                                                                                                                                                          |        |        | 100   |                              |
| <sup>1</sup> Includes area seasonally closed from 12/1 to 3/31 in mule deer winter range, but limited to designated roads and trails the rest of the year.                                                                         |        |        |       |                              |
| <sup>2</sup> In confirmed sage-grouse breeding habitat.                                                                                                                                                                            |        |        |       |                              |
| <sup>3</sup> Includes about 200 acres suitable for disposal to the tribes or BIA for reinterrment purposes and about 200 acres suitable for disposal to Lake County or other civic organization for Fort Rock community expansion. |        |        |       |                              |

Table R-2.—Existing decisions carried forward and not subject to further administrative remedies

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Number | Acres     | Map number | References                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Forest and Woodlands</b><br>Manage existing juniper wood cutting areas in accordance with existing plan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 5      | 37,710    | V-3        | USDI-BLM 1991c, 1991d                                                             |
| <b>Noxious Weeds</b><br>Continue to implement existing weed management plans for the Warner Basin and Abert Rim areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 2      |           |            | USDI-BLM 1995e, 1999g                                                             |
| Continue to implement an existing Integrated Noxious Weed Control Plan. Emphasize: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detection of new invaders</li> <li>• Inventory and control in hot spots</li> <li>• Site restoration to desirable species</li> <li>• Expand control to new sites detected</li> <li>• Expand education and outreach efforts</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1      | 3,200,000 |            | USDI-BLM 1994d                                                                    |
| <b>Wildlife Habitat</b><br>Continue to implement existing wildlife habitat management plans for bighorn sheep habitat maintenance, restoration, and enhancement.<br><br>Continue to improve big game winter habitat, as identified in existing habitat management plans.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 6      |           |            | USDI-BLM 1980c, 1984a, 1984b, 1986a, 1987c, 1996d                                 |
| <b>Special Status Animal Species</b><br>Continue to manage Warner sucker, Fosskett speckled dace, Hutton tui chub, bald eagle, and peregrine falcon in accordance with current recovery plans, biological opinions, and on-going consultation with the USFWS. Manage greater sage-grouse in accordance with the Interim Management Guidelines and future long-term conservation strategies. Implement the “Recovery Plan for the Threatened and Rare Native Fishes of the Warner Basin and Alkali Subbasin”.                                      |        |           |            | Sage-Grouse Planning Team 2000, USDI-USFWS 1998, Appendix H1 of the Draft RMP/EIS |
| <b>Livestock Grazing</b><br>Allotment-specific forage allocations<br>Allotment-specific grazing systems                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |        |           |            | Table 5, Appendix E                                                               |
| <b>Wild Horses</b><br>Continue to gather wild horses, as necessary, in accordance with an existing gather plan. Numbers will normally be reduced to the low end of the appropriate management level range. If emergency situations arise, horses could be gathered for their survival. Horses straying outside the herd management areas will be removed. The current memorandum of understanding with Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, whereby the BLM agrees to remove stray wild horses within the refuge boundaries, will be followed. |        |           |            | USDI-BLM 1995c                                                                    |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Number | Acres | Map number | References                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Continue to adjust wild horse population levels in accordance with monitoring studies, allotment evaluations, and rangeland health assessments, when needed.<br>When monitoring data support a downward adjustment in the allocation of forage within herd management areas, proportionate decreases in wild horse appropriate management levels and authorized active use by livestock will be implemented through the adaptive management process.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |        |       |            |                                                                                   |
| <b>Special Management Areas</b><br><b>Lake Abert ACEC</b><br>An existing two-track road at the mouth of Juniper Creek, east of Highway 395, will be converted to a foot trail.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |        |       | SMA-7      |                                                                                   |
| Noxious weeds will continue to be managed according to direction in the Lake Abert plan amendment, the wilderness IMP, and the "Abert Rim Weed Management Area Plan".                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |        |       |            | USDI-BLM 1996b, 1995b, 1995e                                                      |
| Other management direction, as specified in the ACEC plan amendment, for air quality, fire, water resources, special status species, and cultural resources will continue to be implemented.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |        |       |            | USDI-BLM 1996b                                                                    |
| <b>Abert Rim Addition to Lake Abert ACEC</b><br>Noxious weeds will continue to be managed according to the "Abert Rim Weed Management Area Plan".                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |       |            | USDI-BLM 1995e                                                                    |
| <b>Warner Wetlands ACEC</b><br>Continue to manage in accordance with the existing "Warner Wetlands Area of Critical Environmental Concern Management Plan" except as highlighted below.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |        |       | SMA-10     | USDI-BLM 1990b, 1990c, 1990d, 1990e, 1990f, 1990h, 1990i, 1990j<br>USDI-BLM 1999g |
| Weed management in the ACEC will continue to be conducted according to the "Warner Basin Weed Management Area Plan".                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |        |       |            |                                                                                   |
| <b>Black Hills, Connley Hills, Fish Creek Rim, Foley Lake, Hawksie-Walksie, High Lakes, Juniper Mountain, Red Knoll, and Spanish Lakes ACEC/RNA's</b><br>Livestock grazing will continue in these areas based on existing permit stipulations and approved allotment management plans. Any proposed future changes in grazing, including time and intensity of use, will be evaluated for impacts on the relevant and important values and will be permitted if the values will be maintained or enhanced. (If adverse impacts are identified in the future, existing livestock use will be adjusted using a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, fencing, reduction in livestock numbers, and changes in grazing season of use). <sup>17</sup> |        |       | G-3, SMA-4 |                                                                                   |
| Noxious weeds, primarily medusahead, will continue to be treated within Red Knoll using integrated weed management techniques.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |        |       |            | USDI-BLM 1994d                                                                    |
| The existing habitat management plan for sensitive plants in the Black Hills area will continue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |        |       |            | USDI-BLM 1981b                                                                    |
| Wild horse use in Hawksie-Walksie will continue to be managed in accordance with the existing herd management area plan and allotment management plan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |        |       |            | USDI-BLM 1977a, UDSI-USFWS 1998b                                                  |

| Table Rock ACEC                                                                                                       |       |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Part of the ACEC (Allotment 0708) will allow livestock grazing use to continue based on existing permit stipulations. |       |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
| Number                                                                                                                | Acres | Map number | References                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |
| <b>Recreation</b>                                                                                                     |       |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
| <b>Special Recreation Management Areas</b>                                                                            |       |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|                                                                                                                       |       |            | <b>Warner Wetlands Special Recreation Management Area:</b> Manage in accordance with the “Warner Wetlands Recreation Management Plan”. This includes allowing hunting and motorized boating. Personal motorized watercraft (jetskis and waverunners) are not allowed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| The following projects, will be considered (subject to NEPA review):                                                  |       |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|                                                                                                                       |       |            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Upgrade roads and construct facilities such as trailheads and boat ramps, as necessary for resource protection.</li><li>• Close and rehabilitate additional roads, if necessary.</li><li>• Maintain present facilities, e.g., handicap accessible nature trails, view points, and interpretive sites.</li><li>• Develop and maintain foot and canoe trails and develop self-guiding interpretive literature in response to increased use.</li><li>• Develop a joint USFWS and BLM campground along County Road 3-12.</li></ul> |  |
|                                                                                                                       |       | G-3        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|                                                                                                                       |       | R-9        | USDI-BLM 1990b, 1990c, 1990d, 1990i                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |

**Table R-3.—Future actions likely requiring further NEPA analysis prior to implementation**

| Number                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Map | References |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------|
| <b>Livestock Grazing</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |     |            |
| Implement proposed range improvement projects.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |     |            |
| <b>Forest and Woodlands</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |     |            |
| Designate and/or design new juniper wood cutting areas or juniper treatments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |     |            |
| <b>Special Management Areas</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |     |            |
| <b>Warner Wetlands ACEC</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |     |            |
| Include the meadow management area into the core wetland acquired lands unit of the ACEC. This area would be divided by fencing or natural barriers. The southern portion would utilize fire, mowing, and livestock grazing (authorized on a temporary nonrenewable grazing basis) to meet specific management objectives or as a pretreatment prior to planned prescribed fire to facilitate/enhance fuel breaks. |     |            |
| <b>High Lakes ACEC</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |     |            |
| Remove the berm at the north end of Long Lake, if not needed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |     |            |
| <b>Cultural and Paleontological Resources</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |     |            |
| Stabilize buildings and structures on the Shirk Ranch historical property located in the Guano Valley.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |     |            |
| <b>Fire</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |     |            |
| Implement emergency fire rehabilitation activities after wildland fire.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |            |
| Rest areas from livestock grazing for a minimum of two growing seasons.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |            |
| Other temporary use restrictions may be imposed, as warranted.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |     |            |
| <b>Recreation</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |     |            |
| <b>Picnic Area</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |     |            |
| Develop a picnic area along Highway 31 (at milepost 34.5 south). Facilities could include picnic sites with tables, vault toilets, and kiosks for interpretation of resources and history.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1   |            |
| <b>Sunstone Public Collection Area</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |     |            |
| Develop a designated, primitive campground in the vicinity of the Sunstone Collection Area within the next 10 to 15 years. Facilities could include fire rings, campsite pads, and a potable water source. The area will be proposed as a fee site, if new facilities are constructed.                                                                                                                             | 1   | R-9        |

Appendix L

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Number | Map | References                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----|------------------------------------|
| <b>Energy and Minerals</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |        |     |                                    |
| <b>3809 Regulations and the Sunstone Area</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |        |     |                                    |
| Require a plan of operations for all mining activity that is not casual use, regardless of the number of acres disturbed. Require a plan required for all exploration activities that disturb over 5 acres, bulk sampling which removes 1,000 tons or more of resumed ore for testing, or for any surface-disturbing operations greater than casual use in certain SMA's and lands/waters that contain federally proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or their proposed or designated critical habitat. The approval of plans of operations and mining claim use and occupancy would require future NEPA compliance. The BLM may receive several plans of operations in the Rabbit Basin commercial sunstone area annually. Standard mitigating measures can be found in Appendix N3. The "Lakeview Proposed RMP/FEIS" will serve as the NEPA analysis guiding future sunstone exploration and mining plans of operations for the Rabbit Basin sunstone area. |        | M-4 | USDI-BLM 2000i, 1998h, Appendix N3 |
| <b>Roads and Transportation Management</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |        |     |                                    |
| New road construction to meet administrative or public access needs (miles).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 20     |     | Appendix D                         |

**Table R-4.—New implementation decisions now subject to appeal**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Number  | Acres | Map or Table No./Reference |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------|----------------------------|
| <b>Wild Horses</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |       |                            |
| Change management in the Paisley and Beatty Butte Herd Management Areas in as follows:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 2       |       |                            |
| Appropriate management level (AML)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |       |                            |
| Paisley Desert Herd Management Area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 60–150  |       |                            |
| Beatty Butte Herd Management Area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 100–250 |       |                            |
| <b>Special Management Areas</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |         |       |                            |
| <i>Lost Forest/Sand Dunes/Fossil Lake ACEC/RNA</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |       |                            |
| Road 6151 through the Lost Forest RNA/ISA will be minimally upgraded. Primitive camping areas will be designated in the Lost Forest RNA and Sand Dunes WSA, with camping allowed only in these sites. Parking areas along main road 6151 through the Lost Forest will be provided for day use. Camping areas within the Sand Dunes WSA will be managed on a rotational basis. Adaptive management activities which will allow the continued use of each of these camping/staging areas while protecting the natural values of the area will be adopted as necessary to ensure their long-term use and protection. | 8       |       | Map SMA-9                  |
| <b>Foley Lake ACEC/RNA</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |       |                            |
| The enclosure at Foley Lake will be enlarged to protect the Columbia cress from grazing.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1       |       |                            |
| <b>Cultural and Paleontological Resources</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |         |       |                            |
| Regularly patrol listed, eligible, or potential National Register of Historic Places known to contain large numbers of sites.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |         |       |                            |
| <b>Recreation</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |         |       |                            |
| <i>Special Recreation Management Areas</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |       |                            |
| <i>North Lake Special Recreation Management Area:</i><br>The main road 6151 through the Lost Forest/Sand Dunes/Fossil Lake ACEC will be minimally upgraded to prevent continued resource damage. Camping will only be allowed in five designated primitive campsites located along the outer boundary of the Lost Forest RNA/ISA. The campsites will be small, with parking for one or two vehicles. Camping at the base of Sand Rock will be prohibited and the sites rehabilitated. A small pull-off along the road for parking will be delineated for day-use access to the Sand Rock area.                    | 5       |       | Map SMA-9                  |
| There will be three camping/staging areas allowed in the Sand Dunes WSA. Use of these three camping/staging areas will be managed on a rotational basis, i.e., two of the camping/staging areas will be open and available to use and the other area will be closed for an indeterminate amount of time (2–6 years) to allow natural rehabilitation to occur. Adaptive management will allow the continued use of each of these camping/staging areas and ensure the long-term use and protection of these areas.                                                                                                 | 3       |       | Map SMA-9                  |